

Summer Handwriting Workshop Supported

The School Committee Monday night discussed the possibility of introducing a commercial standardized

handwriting course into the school system. The Committee rejected the idea in favor of the previously adopted summer workshop which will develop a handwriting curriculum for the schools, particularly the elementary grades.

Committee member Patricia Walsh had moved for reconsideration of the summer workshop, suggesting that various handwriting courses were available at low costs for annual programs. The courses offer student and teacher workbooks, as well as wall charts depicting the proper formation of letters.

Committee member Diana Kornet pointed out that the "grass-roots" summer workshop, which would show teachers from both the Joseph Osgood and Deer Hill Schools how to serve as in-school

instructors to implement the handwriting techniques and curriculum in September, would obviate the need for a yearly course from one of the proposed courses.

Frank England, Vice-Chairman of the board, questioned the handwriting goal that had been set forth for the schools a few years ago and what direction it had taken. Superintendent John Maloney responded and said that the goal emphasized the need for neatness, not methodology.

Mary Benbow, occupational therapist for the school, agreed that lack of method

was not the primary problem with children, but rather a deficient understanding of child development and the need of proper motor instruction so that young students could learn how to handle writing tools and form letters. Benbow will work with the staff in implementing the handwriting programs in the schools.

Former board member Richard Silvia said that he was "alarmed" at the present discussion of a handwriting program, because he recalled similar goals set when he was serving the Committee. He

was chagrined, he said, to think that something as basic as handwriting had been neglected for so long.

Supt. Maloney said that a few years ago a handwriting evaluation had been conducted in the elementary school grades when it was found that construction of letters was not at issue as much as the problem with sloppiness.

A split vote of the Committee failed to pass the motion to reconsider the summer workshop. The four week course which will cost \$2500 will identify an appropriate handwriting technique to be used consistently in the Cohasset schools.

Dispute

School Shorts

CHAIRMAN DESIGNEE

The School Committee voted to empower the Chairman or his designee to sign School Department payroll.

MUD ROOM

The Committee considered renovation of the "mud room" at the Jr./Sr. High School to be converted into a large storage area. The proposed renovation was estimated at \$10,000 to \$12,000 and the board voted to advertise for bidders.

SUB-COMMITTEE

A Teacher Evaluation Subcommittee has been appointed including School Committee member Diana Kornet, school staff members Patricia Wunschel, John Craemer, and residents Julian Hartwell, Ralph Dorminster and Mrs. Paul Desmond. The subcommittee will design an evaluation instrument to be

implemented in the schools in the fall.

RELEASE DAYS

A release day proposal for the 1979-1980 school year was approved by the School Committee. Five days will be allotted to the Jr./Sr. High School, and eight days to the Joseph Osgood and Deer Hill Schools. The administration urged the continued cooperation of teachers in conducting after hours consultations with parents who can not visit during school hours.

DEER HILL PHONE

A log of the phone calls made from the Deer Hill library phone will be examined by Committee members to ascertain if unauthorized use indicates the need to close down that outside line. Committee member Diana Kornet urged retention of the outside line as it is the only one available in that portion of the school.

NEXT SC MEETING

The June 11 School Committee meeting will consider solely School Committee goals for the 1979-1980 school year.

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names before Pattison's on the 30-foot list, Pattison will be entitled to the next commercial area opening because he earns more than 85 per cent of his living by fishing. The commercial mooring area, which has been newly designated since last year, is outlined by the northwest corner of Laurence Wharf straight across the cove, from the steps on the south point of the Cox estate to the white channel marker off the end of Bassing Beach from the white channel marked to the northeast corner of Fisherman's Pier.

Clark offered to accompany Pattison to the harbor to view the spots where Pattison claims he can fit his boat. Ritter, however, maintained that there was no room for the boat and added that he wouldn't have 180 names on the mooring list if that kind of space were available.

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